

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE

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BARLEY, SOYBEAN, COTTON AND WHEAT ACREAGES UP

According to a survey conducted in early June by the USDA/NASS Virginia Field Office, Virginia's farmers will have increased land planted to barley by 15,000 acres in 2011. Soybean acreage increased 2 percent while cotton and wheat acreages were up 39 percent and 61 percent respectively. Tobacco and hay acreages were also up however peanut acreage decreased.

Virginia corn producers reported that planting was completed at 490,000 acres, the same as last year. Corn producers expect to harvest 340,000 acres for grain in 2011, which is 30,000 more acres when compared to 2010.

Soybean producers in Virginia planted 570,000 acres, up 2% from last year. As of June 26, 83 percent of Virginia's soybean crop was planted with the majority of the crop in fair to good condition.

Virginia farmers planted 115,000 acres of cotton this year, a 32,000 acreage increase from the previous year. As of June 26, 40 percent of Virginia's cotton was squaring with the majority of cotton in fair to good condition.

Flue-cured tobacco acreage is up 1,000 to 18,500 acres when compared with 2010. Burley producers plan to harvest 2,000 acres, up 400 acres from a year ago. Five hundred fifty acres are dedicated to fire-cured tobacco, a decrease of 100 acres from 2010.

Peanut growers in the Commonwealth planted 14,000 acres, which is a large drop of 4,000 acres from 2010. Producers expect to harvest 14,000 acres of peanuts in 2011, also down 4,000 acres from the previous year.

Barley seeded acreage increased 20 percent from last year and is estimated at 90,000 acres. Barley producers anticipate harvesting 70,000 acres for grain, which is up 22,000 acres from last year. Eleven thousand acres of oats were planted in Virginia, a decline of 1,000 acres from last year. 3,000 acres of the planted oats will be harvested for grain.

Virginia's all hay increased by 2% from last year at 1,350,000 acres. Other hay acreage increased to 1,280,000 acres. Alfalfa hay will be made on 70,000 acres, a 10,000 acre reduction from 2010.

Winter wheat acres seeded last fall for this season were 290,000 acres, which is a 61 percent increase from 2010. Wheat producers are expecting to harvest 260,000 acres for grain, which is 100,000 acres more than a year ago.

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**U.S. Corn Planted Acreage Up 5 Percent from 2010
Soybean Acreage Down 3 Percent
All Wheat Acreage Up 5 Percent
All Cotton Acreage Up 25 Percent**

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2011 is estimated at 92.3 million acres, up 5 percent from last year, and the second highest planted acreage in the United States since 1944, behind only the 93.5 million acres planted in 2007. Growers expect to harvest 84.9 million acres for grain, up 4 percent from last year.

Soybean planted area for 2011 is estimated at 75.2 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. Area for harvest, at 74.3 million acres, is also down 3 percent from 2010. Record high planted acreage is estimated in New York and North Dakota.

All wheat planted area is estimated at 56.4 million acres, up 5 percent from 2010. The 2011 winter wheat planted area, at 41.1 million acres, is up 10 percent from last year. Of this total, about 29.1 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.3 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.7 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2011 is estimated at 13.6 million acres, down 1 percent from 2010. Of this total, about 12.9 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2011 is estimated at 1.70 million acres, down 34 percent from the previous year. Flooding in the Dakotas reduced acres planted to other spring and Durum wheat.

All cotton planted area for 2011 is estimated at 13.7 million acres, 25 percent above last year. Upland acreage is estimated at 13.4 million acres, up 25 percent from 2010. American Pima acreage is estimated at 289,000 acres, up 42 percent from 2010.

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